

# Anonymous Anonymous

We think that raising steelhead fish on the coast of Baibrige Island is a bad idea. Years ago the area was not as developed, so some of the points I am about to make may not have been present/relevant for the initial salmon raising lease to be approved. But things have changed.

This is now a large residential area. It is also a recreational area visited by people from all over the island, as well as tourists. A commercial business is no longer appropriate.

More houses and a larger population mean more use of the waters for recreational activities. Children as well as adults swim, kayak, paddle-board, etc. in this water. Having over a million fish in the same water means more poop and more chemicals, neither of which are healthy, especially in large quantity. If the pens were not there, some fish would still around but the quantity would be massively reduced and the chemicals would not be present. Reduced fish could mean that the number of sea lions would also smaller, and not present the safety hazard they now do.

Without the fish farm, the number of large trucks that travel the end of Fort Ward Road would be reduced. Unfortunately it is a narrow road that walkers and bikers share with motor vehicles. It is the ONLY way to get to some houses and the south entrance to Fort Ward Park. The many trucks do present a hazard and a danger as they bring supplies and fish and remove them from the farm.

There are certain nuisances involved with the farm, such as noise and occasional foul odors, but these become minor when compared to the problems listed above.

Finally, there is the constant fear of an outbreak. We know from experience that this happens. The release of a million plus fish into the area's water could be catastrophic in many ways.

Thank you for considering our comments when making your decision. I hope you will do what is currently best for our island, its inhabitants, and our visitors.